ENERGY STAR in Higher Education – Good for Your Budget and the Environment

Colleges and universities may obtain significant reductions in energy bills by changing purchasing policies to specify ENERGY STAR qualified products. The table below presents a typical basket of ENERGY STAR qualified products – monitors, mini-fridges, vending machines, and exit signs – typically found at Higher Education facilities. These products can save you over $300,000 in electricity costs and prevent 3,766 tons of carbon dioxide emissions over their lifetime compared to conventional products.

Simple Steps to Significant Savings at a Typical Higher Education Facility				
Action	Annual Energy & Maintenance Savings	Annual CO2 Reduction (Tons)	Life-Cycle Energy Savings	Life-Cycle CO2 Reduction (Tons)
Use ENERGY STAR power management to enable low-power sleep setting network wide on 2,000 monitors (17″ CRT)	$48,600	527	$176,600	2,106
Use 300 ENERGY STAR qualified compact refrigerators in dormitories	$1,400	14	$10,000	175
Replace 50 conventional vending machines with ENERGY STAR versions	$8,800	89	$93,400	1,247
Replace 100 incandescent exit signs with the ENERGY STAR type	$4,900	24	$40,100	238
Totals	$63,700	654	$320,100	3766

(1)   Figures obtained from calculators on the Purchasing & Procurement Web page; savings have been rounded to the nearest hundred for simplicity. Calculators may be downloaded (right-click) or used from the Web (left-click).

To Learn More
The Purchasing and Procurement Web site (www.energystar.gov/purchasing) helps you locate ENERGY STAR products by brand and model number, understand the differences between ENERGY STAR and non-ENERGY STAR products, and determine savings with ENERGY STAR. Additional savings would result from enabling ENERGY STAR features on copiers and other office products, using Computer Power Management, and using ENERGY STAR commercial clothes washers, refrigerators, freezers, and food service equipment.

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